

BATTLE SHORT

Puerto Cabello Under Fire 25 Minutes.

ALLIES WANTED WAR?

Fired Though Demands Were Met, Says Venezuela.

BLOCKADE IS NOW IN EFFECT.

British Turn Back the Steamer Yucatan From La Guayra.

Mob at Puerto Cabello Had Compelled Captain of a British Steamer to Lower His Flag—When Warships Arrived, Demand for Apology Was Made—Venezuelan Report Says One Was Sent, but the Bombardment Began—Returned the Fire—Venezuelans Enlisting in Large Numbers—Minister Bowen Takes Steps to Protect British and German Residents of Caracas.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN.
[From THE SUN Correspondent at Caracas.]
CARACAS, Dec. 14.—This Anglo-German fleet at Puerto Cabello shelled Fort Libertador at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon (as published exclusively in THE SUN yesterday). Immediately after the warships began using their guns the fort and citadel returned the fire.

When the residents of the city heard the opening guns of the bombardment they became panic-stricken and fled out of the town, seeking places of safety in the interior.

WHAT LED TO THE BOMBARDMENT.

The Government report on the bombardment says that yesterday morning the British cruiser Charybdis and the German cruiser Vineta arrived off Puerto Cabello or the purpose of seizing the Venezuelan warships which had taken refuge in the interior harbor. The British collier Topaze was in the harbor preparing to leave without opposition from the Venezuelan authorities.

The captain of the Topaze was summoned by the British Commodore to go aboard the Charybdis, where the captain told the English commander that on Friday an excited mob of Venezuelans had obliged him to lower the British flag on the Topaze, considering that after the seizure of the Venezuelan fleet the flying of the British flag in the port was an insult to Venezuela. An armed force from the Charybdis protected the Topaze when she left the harbor, though no opposition was made to her leaving.

A committee of merchants then visited the American Consul and requested him to board the Charybdis and inform the commander that the attitude of the Venezuelan troops and authorities was pacific. He was also requested to ask the commander not to send a force ashore and to avoid a conflict.

The Commodore boarded the warship and told Commodore Montgomerie what the people requested of him. The Commodore related to the Consul the incident of the Topaze, and said that he demanded immediate satisfaction. He added that his mission was to seize the Venezuelan vessels in the harbor and he asked the Consul to convey to the Venezuelan authorities a request for permission to send a boat into the interior harbor to inspect it.

This latter request was granted, but the authorities sent a message to the Commodore saying that they must consult with President Castro before giving the satisfaction demanded for the alleged insult to the British flag.

OPENED FIRE THOUGH DEMANDS WERE MET.
At 3 o'clock on Saturday afternoon Commodore Montgomerie sent an ultimatum ashore declaring that he would shell Fort Libertador if satisfaction was not received at 5 o'clock. Accordingly the bombardment commenced at that hour and lasted for twenty-five minutes.

Two minutes before the firing commenced at 4:58 P. M. a message containing the satisfaction demanded, was despatched to the Charybdis.

SURPRISE AT ALLIES' ACTION.
Nobody can understand why the British and Germans have resorted to such extreme measures, and it is held in some quarters that the inauguration of open war at Puerto Cabello is a dire mistake that will have very serious consequences.

The supporters of President Castro maintain that he has acted with great political sagacity. It has been charged that he is bitterly opposed to the British and Germans, but that this is not so is shown by the fact that to-day in company with Señora Castro he visited Mrs. von Pilgrim-Baltazzi, wife of the German

Burnett's Extract of Vanilla
Prepared from selected Vanilla Beans, warranted authentic.
For my first Chicago Limited
do not care to buy at 100 P. M. arrives
I shall go from 124 1/2 hour train via New

Chargé d'Affaires, who is dangerously ill and who has been unable to leave the city. It is declared that the hasty action of the allies in firing upon the fort at Puerto Cabello will render nugatory all the measures taken by President Castro to bring the dispute to a settlement by arbitration.

VENEZUELAN ENLISTING.
Great and increasing excitement prevails here. Militiamen are coming into the city from all directions, and every person in the capital capable of bearing arms is enlisting. Already the number of volunteers ready to defend their country against the exactions of the foreigners is very large.

The English and German colleges here have been obliged to close owing to the public demonstrations that have been made against them.

PROTECTION FOR BRITISH AND GERMANS.
The German and British residents of the city are afraid that an attack may be made upon it at any moment, for the popular feeling against them is at fever heat. They went en masse to the American legation this morning and begged that refuge be given to them. Mr. Bowen, the American Minister, said that he would protect them, and he succeeded in a great measure in allaying their fears.

He told them that he would reopen the British legation, which was closed when the British Minister withdrew from the capital, and would raise the American flag upon it. He added that he would place Mr. William Russell, secretary of the American legation, in charge of the British building and that the British and Germans would then be safe from the fury of the exasperated Venezuelans.

The German and English residents are highly indignant because of Minister Haggard and Minister von Pilgrim-Baltazzi leaving without notifying them, thereby exposing them to the fury of the mob. Many declare that they will emigrate to the United States.

The Archbishop of Caracas conducted public worship to-day. He implored the Almighty to protect Venezuela. The university has been closed, all the students having volunteered for military service.

Herr Valentiner, the German Consul, and Herr Blohm, a German banker, both of whom are prominent commercially, have gone to La Guayra to try to obtain delay in the giving of a notice of blockade, and to urge the acceptance of arbitration.

President Castro issued passports to them, although they are acting on the initiative of the German residents.

The old adage that "blood is thicker than water" has received another confirmation since the two European Powers have attacked the sovereignty of Venezuela. The Venezuelans have always been ready to help any of their Latin-American neighbors when threatened by the aggressions of Europeans, and now they are being repaid.

The entire Argentine, Cuban and Chilean colonies have offered their services to President Castro to defend Venezuela. Strange as it may appear, a comparatively large number of Germans who live in the interior of the country have volunteered to bear arms in defense of this country against their fatherland.

The Germans residing in the city are objects of detestation among the Venezuelans and are hissed when ever they are seen on the streets.

CARACAS REMAINS CALM.

There appears to be no unwonted flurry in official quarters. The Government maintains its calm attitude, but the populace are holding meetings at which the most violent speeches are made.

The political prisoners who were confined at Puerto Cabello, and who were released by the recent decree of President Castro, have arrived here. As soon as they reached the city they offered their services to the President, and the offer was accepted.

READY TO DEFEND LA GUAYRA.

At La Guayra the situation is far calmer than it is here. There is only one warship in the harbor, the others having gone to Puerto Cabello to protect the British merchant steamer Topaze when she leaves for Mayaguez. The captain of this steamer asserted that the Venezuelans were interfering with the working of his ship and he appealed to the British Commodore for protection. The Government officials at Puerto Cabello declare that the vessel has not been interfered with in any way, and that she can leave the port whenever her commander is ready to take her out.

The concentration of troops continues at La Guayra, and other measures have been taken at that port to place it in condition for a defense if the Government decides to resist a landing of the allied troops. So far as known, however, there has been no likelihood of the plans of the Germans and British, and until their next move is made the Venezuelan Government will take no further steps.

TEST OF THE MONROE DOCTRINE.

The belief is prevalent everywhere in the capital that the acts of Germany and Great Britain are not only directed against Venezuela, but also against the United States, in being their intention to force the Washington Government to define clearly its understanding of the scope of the Monroe Doctrine.

ITALIAN MINISTER LEAVES.

His Daughters Threatened by a Mob in Caracas.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN.

ROME, Dec. 14.—Signor de Riva, the Italian Minister, has left Caracas and has embarked on the Italian cruiser Giovanni Bausani at La Guayra.

His two daughters narrowly escaped ill-treatment from a mob.

Investors Read The Wall Street Journal.
Accuracy and completeness, the watchwords of its publishers. New York, N. Y.

BREACH OF FAITH BY ALLIES?

QUESTION RAISED IN WASHINGTON OVER THE BOMBARDMENT.

Statements Made to This Government Gave the Idea That Only a "Peaceable Blockade" Was Intended—No Fear That Either Nation Will Seize Territory.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Confirmation of the news printed exclusively in THE SUN this morning that German and English warships had bombarded Puerto Cabello was received at the State Department to-day from Herbert W. Bowen, United States Minister at Caracas. Mr. Bowen said that his authority for this information was President Castro, whose statement indicated that the bombardment was still in progress.

Another and earlier telegram came from Mr. Bowen at 3:20 o'clock this morning. In it he said that the political situation was much quieter. He explained that the great excitement in Caracas, of which he had previously informed the Department, had been caused by the "flight" of the British and German diplomatic representatives, the arrest of all British and German subjects in Venezuela by President Castro's order and the capture of Venezuelan war vessels by the European allies without a declaration of war or a blockade. Mr. Bowen concluded this message with the significant statement that "everybody fears bombardment," unquestionably of La Guayra, the port of Caracas.

It is now openly acknowledged by officials of the Government that the Venezuelan situation has assumed proportions beyond what the United States had expected or hoped to expect by England and Germany. It is even admitted that the situation is extremely serious from the viewpoint of this Government's concern in the affair. What was considered to be a minor trivial incident in the affairs of the world is now regarded with feelings of apprehension in Washington.

The news that Puerto Cabello has been bombarded by the allies has not had a pleasing effect in Government circles here. Such a radical step was not expected in view of the assurances given by President Roosevelt and Secretary Hay by Germany and England of their intention to pursue a course that did not contemplate the shedding of blood or the destruction of property. This bombardment, taken in connection with the seizure and destruction of Venezuelan vessels in the harbor, has led to the belief that has been prevalent in Washington for several days that Great Britain and Germany contemplated from the outset the waging of war against the South American republic.

The Administration certainly construed the communications of the London and Berlin Governments, made in advance of the inauguration of coercive measures, as assurance of the intention of those governments to go no further in their efforts to bring Venezuela to terms than the institution of a "peaceable" blockade, or a blockade without war, and this failing to make Castro comply with the Anglo-German demands, to seize the coastwise houses at La Guayra and Puerto Cabello for the purpose of collecting tariff duties sufficient to liquidate the obligations of Venezuela to English and German subjects.

BREACH OF FAITH?

It is now for the Administration to determine whether there has been a breach of faith by England and Germany toward the United States, and if an affirmative decision is reached, what course of action is necessary in the circumstances.

From what is said by officials, however, it is gathered that the Administration desires to continue its policy of "hands off" as long as there is nothing done by the allies or either of them to lead to the suspicion that the Monroe Doctrine is in danger of violation. Broadly stated, the Administration's policy is to hold itself aloof from the quarrels of any Latin-American country with a foreign nation or nations where there is no apparent prospect of the acquisition or permanent occupation of territory on the Western Hemisphere by the troops of a non-American Power.

The Administration holds that as Venezuela is a sovereign State not under the protection of the United States, except so far as the preservation of its territorial integrity is involved, it cannot expect assistance from this Government in its embroilings with European countries. There has been no change in the policy proclaimed by President Roosevelt in his annual message of Dec. 8, 1901, in which he said: "We do not guarantee any State against punishment if it misconducts itself, provided that punishment does not take the form of acquisition of territory by any non-American Power." But the seeming disregard by England and Germany of assurances voluntarily offered by them to the United States presents a new condition to which the President and his advisers will certainly give attention.

NO INTENTION OF SEIZING TERRITORY.

In order that there may be no misunderstanding of the feeling in Administration circles, it should be made clear that the President and his Cabinet are convinced that neither Germany nor England has any intention of seizing Venezuelan territory for permanent occupation. The assurances on that point conveyed to the President were absolutely frank, and the good faith of the two Governments is not doubted. The Government, therefore, feels no concern in the present situation beyond that possibly involved in determining whether the sinking of Venezuelan warships and the bombardment of Puerto Cabello constituted breaches of faith and the fear that the differences between Venezuela and her European enemies will not be adjusted within a reasonable time.

The text of the German assurances was printed THE SUN on Friday. The repetition now of their essential features will serve to give a better understanding of the question whether England and Germany indicated only an intention to establish a "peaceable" blockade, and possibly seize one or two coastwise houses, or have been guilty of a breach of faith toward the United States in seizing and sinking Venezuelan

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"Black and White" Scotch Whisky.

Soft and smooth, not sticky like the Scotch.

For the Connoisseur.

Pat. Malt.

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MRS. JULIA DENT GRANT DEAD

THE WIDOW OF GEN. U. S. GRANT EXPIRES IN WASHINGTON.

She Had Been Suffering for Some Time With Acute Bronchitis and a Complication of Bright's Disease and Heart Trouble—Died at Midnight.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Mrs. Julia Dent Grant, the widow of Gen. U. S. Grant, died at about midnight to-night. She had been suffering for some time with bronchitis, and had complications of Bright's disease and valvular heart trouble. This, in connection with her advanced age, 76 years, was sufficient to warrant a fatal outcome of her illness.

Mrs. Grant had been confined to her bed for a greater part of the time since last October, when she was taken ill while at Coburg, Canada, and brought back to Washington in a special car.

Mrs. Grant's sons, Gen. Frederick D. Grant, U. S. A., Commander of the Department of Texas, and Ulysses S. Grant, Jr., and Jesse Grant, both of whom are in San Diego, Cal., were notified yesterday of their mother's critical condition and advised to come to Washington as grave fears of a fatal outcome of her illness were felt. Replies were received from them this afternoon saying that they would leave at once for Washington.

Mrs. Grant was conscious almost to the last and realized from the time of the change for the worse in her condition that there was little chance of her recovery.

Mrs. Grant's granddaughters, Miss Rosemary Sartoris and Miss James Roosevelt, were at her bedside with her daughter when she died. Another granddaughter, Second Lieut. Algernon E. Sartoris of the Tenth Infantry, is stationed in the Philippines.

Mrs. Grant's life was wholly bound to that of her husband, for even after his death she continued to occupy the position of Gen. Grant's widow and his biographer, and she did not identify herself with any public movement to attract popular attention to herself.

Gen. Grant made her acquaintance through her brother, F. D. Dent, who was his classmate and for a time his roommate at West Point and who later became a Brigadier General and was Minister to Denmark. Dent's home was five miles from Jefferson Barracks, Mo., at the plantation known as White Haven, which his father owned. Mrs. Grant was sent to Jefferson Barracks to look after her introduction to the Dent family and she had become a frequent visitor and much-liked friend there by the time his classmate's sister Julia got home from her boarding-school studies.

Julia was born in St. Louis on Jan. 26, 1826. Her father was Fredrick Dent, her grandfather Capt. George Dent. Her mother, Ellen Wrenshall Dent, was a descendant of John Wrenshall, who came to America from England to escape religious persecution and settled in Philadelphia.

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CASTRO FIGHTING REBELS, TOO.

Revolution in Venezuela Not Over—Ready to Defend La Guayra.

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Venezuela has refused an offer from a German banker at Caracas to loan her money with which to settle the Anglo-German claims.

CARACAS, Dec. 14.—Mr. Bowen has sent the Government a note from the allied commanders intimating that Venezuelan ships will have five days to leave La Guayra. This is supposed to be a preliminary notification of a blockade.

WILL UNITE SOUTH AMERICA.

Venezuelan Consul Says Republic Will Join in Resisting Invaders.

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BRUSSELS, Dec. 14.—The Venezuelan Consul here, who is a personal friend of President Castro, says that if the allies actually declare war all the South American republics will support Venezuela and will clear out the invaders.

CLAIMS AGAINST VENEZUELA.

Quinlan of the Asphalt Company Says They Are Exorbitant and Unjust.

SYRACUSE, Dec. 14.—P. R. Quinlan of the Warner-Quinlan Asphalt Company has returned from a business trip to Venezuela. The adjudication of the differences between the Warner-Quinlan company and the Asphalt Trust, he says, is held in abeyance by the United States Government. He says that the claims which are being pressed against the Government by Great Britain and Germany are exorbitant and unjust. President Castro, he thinks, is a brave and popular man.

MOULINEUX NOT RECONCILED.

She Will Not Abandon Her Divorce Suit in South Dakota.

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BRYAN TO GO TO MEXICO.

Will See About That Proposed Change to the Field Standard.

AUSTIN, Tex., Dec. 14.—Col. W. J. Bryan will arrive here on next Friday and remain a few days as the guest of W. M. House. He will go from here to Mexico, where he will spend the Christmas holidays.

It is said that the object of Col. Bryan's trip to Mexico is to make a personal investigation of the existing conditions brought about there by the great decline in the price of silver. The semi-official announcement which was made recently that the Mexican Government contemplates adopting the gold standard is said to have aroused Col. Bryan's determination to make a close personal study of the financial problem in that country.

AMERICAN RIDERS LOSE.

English Firm Gets Contract for Electric Railway at Lorenzo Marques.

LONDON, Dec. 14.—Messrs. McElroy & Co. of London have obtained a contract for the construction of electric railways at Lorenzo Marques, Portuguese East Africa. The value of the contract is \$500,000.

The English firm defeated keen German and American competition. They offered to do the work quicker than the Germans and at less price than the Americans.

STUDENTS IN A FIERCE FIGHT.

A Professor Helps the Youngsters by Wielding a Curtain Pole.

ANNAPOLIS, Md., Dec. 14.—An attempt by the students of St. John's College to stage the preparatory studies at an early hour this morning led to a fight in which several students were injured. The preps defended themselves well and were led by one of their instructors, Prof. Rapier, who wielded a curtain pole.

Prof. Rapier is a graduate of Wesleyan University and has only become a member of the St. John's faculty this year. The affair was begun at about 1 o'clock this morning, when a body of students, mostly freshmen, went from Pinkney Hall to Humphrey Hall, the dormitory of the younger students, to take them. The preps showed fight and succeeded in driving their assailants off, injuring one so badly that he had to be carried away.

This round other freshmen and they came back in a larger force. By this time Prof. Rapier, who rooms in Humphrey Hall, had been aroused, and with a curtain pole as a weapon he stood at the top of the stairs and for a long time kept practically the attacking body at bay. Some of the students protected themselves with football headpieces, however, and at last the professor was overpowered and held. The fight lasted for three hours.

HYDROPHOBIA FROM A KITTEN.

Dr. Packer Says That Rogers Has Little Chance of Recovery.

Theodore F. Rogers, an engineer, of 9 Mitchell place, was taken to Bellevue Hospital last night and put in the insane ward. Dr. Packer, who is in charge of the ward, says that the man has a well-developed case of hydrophobia and that there is not much hope of saving his life. Dr. Packer has warned the nurses to be very careful in handling Rogers.

Rogers, who was employed in a downtown building, was seized by a Maltese kitten about eight weeks ago. The kitten jumped on Rogers' lap to get away from a dog.

Rogers had the wound cauterized, but about a week ago he began to suffer great agony. Three doctors were called in to attend him and a muscular trained nurse had to be kept with him all the time. Yesterday he became so violent he was decided to send him to the hospital.

MEMORY SUDDENLY RETURNS.

J. Fairfax McLaughlin, Stricken While at Work, Will Get Well.

The friends of J. Fairfax McLaughlin, who for fourteen years has been chief clerk of the Surrogate's Court, were congratulating him yesterday on what they regard as his miraculous recovery. Mr. McLaughlin was stricken with what appeared to be a form of apoplexy while at work on Nov. 29, and was removed to his home in Polham avenue, near Lorillard street, The Bronx.

His particular ailment was a sudden loss of memory. He was attended by Dr. T. J. Dunn who announced yesterday that Mr. McLaughlin had recovered his memory again as suddenly as he lost it, and would be able to go to work in about two weeks.

TO SELL CHURCH FOR \$1,250,000.

Park Street Congregation in Boston Will Give Up Site for Office Building.

BOSTON, Dec. 14.—The communicants of the Park Street Church held a meeting last night at which the action of the pew-holders in voting to sell the property to a syndicate for \$1,250,000 was ratified by a unanimous vote. Subsequently a joint meeting of pew holders and communicants was held.

This decision virtually insures the razing of the present edifice and the erection in its place of a large office building. It was said last night that the project for this new building included one or more other pieces of property on Park street.

C. VANDERBILT UNCHANGED.

Critical Point of His Fever Still Several Days Ahead.

Cornelius Vanderbilt's condition was reported last night as unchanged. At the house, 22 Park avenue, the following bulletin was given out:

"Mr. Vanderbilt's condition remains the same and no more bulletins will be issued unless some change should occur."

Dr. Flint said after his evening call that the patient's temperature has been running along evenly for the last day or two and that the change usual in a case of typhoid at the end of the third week was not due for three or four days yet.

Typhoid usually terminates by a gradual drop in temperature after about two or three days of fever, or by crisis as a sudden lowering of the temperature is called. This latter phase of